

**General Assembly**

Distr.: General
3 December 2003

Original: English

Fifty-eighth session

Agenda items 52 (a) and 121

Oceans and the law of the sea**Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005****Oceans and the law of the sea****Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/58/L.19****Seventeenth report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions**

1. The Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions has considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly on the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/58/L.19 (A/C.5/58/22).
2. An analysis of the requirements of the draft resolution is contained in paragraphs 6 to 8 of the statement submitted by the Secretary-General.
3. The Advisory Committee notes that provision has been made under section 8, subprogramme 4, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005 for the requests contained in operative paragraphs 64 (a) and (d) of the draft resolution. No additional appropriation would therefore be required (see A/C.5/58/22, para. 7).
4. As concerns paragraph 64 (e) of the draft resolution, the Secretary-General estimates that the convening of the intergovernmental meeting referred to therein would give rise to additional requirements of \$347,000 (at 2004-2005 rates) at full cost under section 2, General Assembly affairs and conference services, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005 (*ibid.*, para. 8), on the understanding that the additional requirements entailed by the holding of the meeting in Iceland would be borne by the host Government.



5. The Advisory Committee recommends that the Fifth Committee inform the General Assembly that should it adopt draft resolution A/58/L.19, an additional appropriation of \$347,000 (at 2004-2005 rates) would be required in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005 under section 8, Legal affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005, subject to the procedures established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 41/213 of 19 December 1986 and 42/211 of 21 December 1987, for the use and operation of the contingency fund. The Committee was informed that potential charges against the contingency fund for the biennium 2004-2005 as at 21 November 2003 exceeded the level approved by the Assembly for the fund for the biennium. The Committee has commented on this matter in its report of 24 November 2003 (see A/58/7/Add.13, para. 8).